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Sixth session of the Joint Conference
of African Planners Statisticians
and Demographers

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 15-20 January 1990

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON MIGRATION STATISTICS

(Addis Ababa, 6-10 November 1989)

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A. PARTICIPATION AND ORGANIZATION

Opening of the meeting

1. The Working Group on migration statistics held its meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 6 to 10 November 1989 with the financial support of the United Nations Population Fund. The Deputy Executive Secretary of the ECA read out a message from the Executive Secretary and opened the meeting on his behalf.

Attendance

2. Thirteen African experts invited in their individual capacity from Botswana, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Malawi, Mali, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire attended the meeting. The following institutions: the United Nations Population Division, the African Population Study Union (UAPS), the Population Training and Research Institute (IFORD) and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities were also represented.

Election of officer

3. The Working Group elected the following officers:

Chairman: Mr. Joe Nowa (Malawi)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Lututala Mumpasi (Zaire) and
Rapporteur: Mrs. Gwen Lesetedi (Botswana)

B. AGENDA

4. The meeting adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening adress
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
4. Review of national practices in collecting, processing, analysing and disseminating data on migration
5. The status of data availability on internal and international migration in Africa
6. Interlinking migration data from different sources
7. Review of problems related to measuring and analysing migration statistics:
   (a) internal migration
   (b) international migration
8. Special measurement and analytical problems for women and children
9. The establishment of a statistical data base on migration statistics
10. Recommendations on improving the state of migration statistics in Africa

11. Evaluation of the meeting

12. Other business

13. Adoption of the report

C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

Opening address (Agenda item 1)

5. After welcoming participants to the meeting the Executive Secretary expressed his gratitude to the UNFPA for financing the organization of the meeting in addition to its contribution to the development of demographic and social statistics in the region.

6. He pointed out that a thorough knowledge of population movements is indispensable for conducting any type of demographic analysis, population projection, development planning or for formulating national policies. He underlined the advantage of gathering maximum information on national and international migration for the appraisal of the nature, scope and direction of these movements and for understanding and analyzing their causes as well as for delivering plans to confront those problems.

7. He noted the lack of a regular reliable flow of information in this area and called upon the working group to appraise national methods of collecting, processing and disseminating date and assess the availability of data for measurement and analysis especially the data concerning women whose migratory patterns differ from those of men. Moreover he urged the working group to come up with recommendation that would assist and encourage African countries to improve their statistics for a realistic assessment and explanation of the migration phenomenon. He added that those recommendations would be submitted for consideration by the sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers scheduled for January 1990.

8. He stated that the ECA attaches great importance to that meeting because on the one hand it forms part of ECA's backing to Member States in their efforts to streamline their statistics and on the other hand the meeting should pave the way for the "First Conference on migration and development in Africa: Question and policies for the 1990s" which will be held under the aegis of the UNFPA in Nairobi (Kenya) from 4 to 9 December 1989.

9. The Executive Secretary concluded his statement by wishing the participants full success in their work.

Review of national practices in collecting, processing, analyzing and disseminating data on migration (Agenda item 4)

10. The participants spoke of their countries experience in collecting, processing, analyzing and disseminating data on migration.

11. The participant from Botswana stated that migration statistics is compiled from information collected by the Immigration Department in the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs and through censuses and surveys. Recently a national registration system was introduced for everyone above 16 years to register with the National Registration Department. Migration

statistica is compiled from arrival and departure forms completed by everyone entering or leaving the country through the official border ports. Data on this is published annually in the "Tourist Report" due to various problems in compiling the forms and transmitting them from the border ports the processed data cannot be considered comprehensive. In addition all foreigners staying or intending to stay in the country for over 90 days must obtain a residence permit or an exemption certificate from the Immigration Department. This system complements the "arrival statistics" to identify long and short-term residents. Sample surveys are also another data source for migration data. A National Migration Study was undertaken during the period 1977 to 1982. Recently a two-round Demography Survey was carried out in 1987 which included the collection of migration data as well as mortality and fertility. The dtat is still yet to be analyzed. The census has also been a prominent source of internal migration statistics as well as international migration. The 1981 census schedule included questions on place of residence of respondents exactly one year prior to the census. A separate block of the census schedule was allocaed to record the particulars of absentees who were absent from the country at the time of the census but who would live in the household if they were present.

12. The representative of Mali mentioned his country's long tradition in the matter of migration to which the same importance is attached as to other population phenomenons. A host of operations (the population surveys of 1960-61 and 1985, the censuses of 1986 and 1987, the migration survey in the Senegal river valley of 1982 - 1983 and the various agricultural surveys carried out 1964 in rural areas, all relevant to the migration issue) were undertaken and their funding are available for a detailed analysis both from the point of view of time and space. In addition to those findings, other surveys undertaken by researchers in certain specific areas of the country are availble for a better comprehension of certain particular aspects of the impact of migration on the socio-economic development of the country. Worthy to be noted are the survey on fishing with special focus on the migration of fishermen in the major river delta and the various censuses carried out in the city of Bamako. It should be noted that as regards migration studies Mali is working in conjunction with two networks: the CERPOD and the IDRC.

13. A representative from Tanzania mentioned that censuses and immigration cards/records have been the main sources of internal and international migration statistics. Many problems have been encountered in the course of collecting these statistics and have to a greater extent, contributed to the delay and even failure to publish migration statistics in time. The last report on international migration statistics derived from the immigration records was published for the 1983 and 1984 statistics. It is not known when the reports for the subsequent years will be published. On internal migration statistics no substantive records are available which could be used to generate sttistics. Apart from the immigration cards and other administrative records, both internal and international migration statistics were collected through 1967, 1978 and 1988 population censuses. Statistics and analytical reports have been published for the data collected from the 1967 and 1978 censuses. Plans are underway to publish migration statistics which wer collected during the 1988 population census.

14. A representative of the secretariat introduced a document on national methods of data collecting prepared by the representative of Togo who was

held back at the last moment and could not therefore attend the meeting. Data on Togolese migration were collected during the general population censuses (1958-60, 1970, 1981) and during the population surveys (1961,1971) undertaken by the office of statistics. They are basically concerned with internal migration. the findings have been tabulated and combined such data as: date of birth, present place of residence, location of place of residence, previous place of residence etc. They have been more or less thoroughly analyzed and studied and the results of thosw works appeared in vaious publications.

15. The participant from Sierra Leone reported that migration statistics were mainly compiled by the Department of Immigration in the Ministry of Interior and to some extent by the Ministry of Tourism. This pertains to information derived from people arriving and leaving the country through border posts manned by Immigration Officers. Other sources of information regarding international migration statistics include those collected from censuses and surveys. On the other hand, internal migration statistics are obtained through censuses. And so far Sierra Leone has carried out censuses in 1963, 1974 and 1985. The National Identity Card Registration has also been carried out extensively and provide information on place of birth and residence. there are however problems related to the compilation of such data regarding both reliability and availability of data.

16. The representative of Ghana reminded the meeting that it is the immigration services which have the responsibility of monitoring people's movements into and from the country. Collecting data however is an uphill taks since there is a great number of frontier posts and adequate surveillance would require important logistic resources. Another difficulty holding back the recording of people's movements is that families living in border areas maintain a second residence. these data cannot be fully exploited because of the lack of coordination between immigration services and those responsible for collecting statistics.

17. The representative of the Congo stated that no specific statistical operation on the subject has been undertaken in his country. During the two population and housing censuses carried out in 1974 and 1984, the usual questions regarding previous place of residence, place of birth, length of stay in the census area and nationality were addressed. Such variables have been used for the analysis of internal and international migrations. As in all other countries passengers are requested to fill immigration cards at airports but this data source has not been tapped.

18. The representative of Zaire informed the meeting that there were no data available in that field. Border statistics are incomplete given the length and permeability of the countries frontiers. Three questions were asked during the first census of 1984: the length of stay at the place of residence in census area, the location of place of residence or the actual place of residence. The migration data have not yet been processed.

19. The representative of Uganda informed the meeting that migratory movements are recorded at two levels: (1) at frontier posts as in the case with other countries and (2) by grassroots committees. the latter collect data in villages but the information is not exploited. This country is affected by vast international migratory movements and the processing and analysis of these data could yield interesting results: Some questions were asked during the census of 1980 but were not enough to allow for an analysis of the phenomenon.

20. The representative of Malawi stated that his country has conducted three population censuses, one in 1966, then in 1977 and in 1988. Furthermore, a Population Change Survey was undertaken from 1970 - 1972 which used a dual system of data collection technique whereby registrars collected data on migrations, fertility and mortality while mobile teams collected similar data at a six months period to cross check with the data collected by the registrars. Therefore migration data have been collected but require detailed analysis.

21. Discussing national methods of data collection, the Working Group identified some specific problems: (a) the non utilization of continued registration systems as data sources such as population registers, border immigration records (b) the usefulness of the question on the period of five years regarding previous place of birth, (c) the non existence of an important research project on migration surveys.

22. Regarding the first point some participants spoke of the functions of population registers in their respective countries. It was noted however that such registers were set up for purposes other than collecting statistical data on migraion, although they do represent potential data sources. It was pointed out that grassroot structures could be of assistance in the collection of information but the use of data from that source could pose political, administrative and logistical problems. It was suggested, however, that statistical office could undertake on the spot visits to study the possibility of using that source. Regarding the border immigration records it is proposed to set up a system of data collection similar to that of the United States, on the duration of stay and date of departure from forms which travellers have to fill at all entry points, but most participants felt that this method would be difficult to apply in Africa on account of numerous problems such as the high illiteracy rate among the majority of the population, the existence of bilateral and multilateral agreements and the permeability of borders.

23. Regarding the second point participants suggested that the question concerning place of residence at a specified time should be the place of residence one year before the census or survey and not five years except if the place of residence over the past five years may have any threshold value or serve any specific purpose. They felt that the longer the period of residence, the less reliable the data. Furthermore, some participants indicated that the one year period was deemed most satisfactory because it minimizes recall lapses and has often been used by demographers in the study of other demographic phenomena such as fertility and mortality.

24. Discussion then focused on the acceptability of research projects on migration surveys to funding agencies. Reference was made to the case of Mali which mapped out a project on external financing for migrants of the three countries bordering on the valley of the Senegal river. The secretariat came in with the statement that funding agencies are always ready to bring financial support to a viable project once a request is put in by governments.

Availability of data on internal and international migration (Agenda item 5)

25. Introducing this agenda item, a representative of the secretariat gave a specific definition of the concept by distinguishing between various categories of movements and defined migration as "a set of movements from one zone of reference to another involving a change of residence".

26. In presenting document E/ECA/STAT/WG/MS/89/7 relating to the review of available data on internal migration statistics in Africa, a representative of the Secretariat said that discontinuous registration i.e. the collection of information through population censuses and sample surveys is the major source of data in Africa. Various notions of migration defining areas and time factor have been utilized by Africa countries in defining the migrants. Emphasis was laid on the identification and the methods of measuring migration on the basis of one or a combination of questions appearing on census or survey questionnaires and of the ease with which migrant personal characteristics can be used and published.

27. Discussions especially centred on identification criteria of migration defining areas, with each participant coming up with his own country's definitions of rural and urban zones. This rural/urban criterion is considered as an essential point for the analysis of migration but the plethora of definitions applied to urban centres makes difficult the comparisons between countries and even between regions in the same country. In this connection it was recommended that countries adopt the same definition at national level. Among political criteria, the advantages of the smallest administrative unit as zone of reference have been pointed out.

28. In the discussions which followed, participants accorded special attention to the following issues: (a) the causes of migration; (b) the difficulties encountered in assessing migration on the basis of children's places of birth when women go to towns and other places to deliver (c) the processing, analysis and publication of data on "migrants" and "non-migrants" and (d) the implementation of a vast migration survey programme covering the region.

29. With regard to (a) participants unanimously recognized the relevance of this question to the study of migration and asked its inclusion in the census and surveys questionnaires. As for (b) it was pointed out that certain traditions demand that the woman returns to her parents to give birth to her first child and that it is becoming increasingly usual for a woman to deliver her babies in the nearest town. Consequently account should be taken of the mother's usual place of residence rather than the actual place of birth. In respect of question (c) the meeting underscored the need to use and process, analyse and publish tables on "migrants" and non-migrants on the basis of such variables as sex, age, marital status, level of education, economic activities etc.

30. The second document E/ECA/STAT/WG/MS/89/8 on this agenda item relating to available data on international migration in Africa, was introduced by a representative of the secretariat who gave illustrative definitions and concepts used by African countries in the collection of data and preparaton of statistics on international migrants and their correspondence with the various recommendations of the United nations.

31. In the course of discussions, divergences in definition of duration of stay as contained in UN recommendations and as understood in African censuses and surveys became apparent. Difficulties of identifying migrants on the basis of place of birth or nationality were also noted.

32. Participants paid special attention to the question of certain groups such as refugees, nomads and the population bestriding borders. they also recognized the great impact of the movements of such groups on the conomy and other aspects of life both in the countries of asylum and the countries of origin without however ignoring the unsurmountable difficulties encountered in establishing their identity on the basis of such variables as length of stay, nationality and in enumerating them.

33. Participants however have defined refugees as displaced persons with the intention to return to their countries of origin and distinguished them into the following categories: political, economic refugees, religious and refugees fleeing natural disasters. It was pointed out that informations on number and characteristics of refugees living in a specified area such as those depending on the UNHCR can be collected.

Interlinking migration data from different sources (Agenda item 6)

34. In introducing the background document, "Interlinking Migration Data from different sources" (E/ECA/STAT/WG/MS/89/9), a representative of the secretariat explained that migration research was one of the neglected areas of African demography. The background paper was therefore intended to illustrate the various methods of interlinking migration data from different sources. This would help to improve the stock and quality of migration data available for planning and research. He then gave examples of ways in which this interlinking could be done, such as using data from two successive population censuses to obtain estimates of life-time in- and out- migrants. Other methods discussed included use of census and civil/vital registration records, census and survey, census and population registers and survey data. Illustrations were given for both internal and international migration. The dual record system and its application to migration estimates was also discussed.

35. In the discussions that followed, a question was raised about the feasibility of interlinking certain types of data to enable in-depth analysis to be undertaken in view of the fact that for example census records may not be available for previous censuses and where they exist, strict laws of confidentiality may deny access to them by researchers not in the statistical office. It was however pointed out that practices in countries varied. Access to printed tables was generally unrestricted. Computer tapes would also be made available but the African experience has been that these are not usable after a few years due to the deterioration of the tapes and changes in technology. The meeting recommended that an attempt should be made to obtain population census tapes (for example, sample of all enumerated population) for each African countries and these should form the basis of a demographic data base to be established at ECA.

36. The experience with the dual record system was also discussed. Problems of matching houses, households and individuals were highlighted. The secretariat explained that for a dual record system to be applied successfully, there was the need for the two records to be statistically

independent. Also, there should be proper mapping of houses to make identification easy. Before countries and researchers applied this method, they should test the procedures. If the matching problems prove insurmountable, then the approach should not be followed. In general, matching should be followed by reconciliation in the field to ensure that the residuals in both lists are definitely unmatchable.

37. The Working Group also recommended that there was the need for standardised tables to be produced to assist in inter-country comparisons. A minimum list of standardised tables should be produced by all countries (see Annex). In this context, the census and census approach discussed in the paper could be extended to enable comparisons to be made between immigrant data from country A and emigrant data from country B, if there is a sizeable flow of international migrants from country A to B or vice versa.

38. The need for adequate funding to be provided for analysis, publication and dissemination of census and survey results was also discussed. It was stressed that this would help to disseminate these results widely and thus stimulate more research on migration.

39. Finally, the Working Group recommended that there was need for greater experimentation in migration data collection and analysis, especially in the use of tracer surveys to validate responses and use of censuses or first phase of two-phase sampling schemes to identify concentrations of migrants and thus improve the sampling design.

Review of problems related to the measuring and analyzing migration statistics: (a) internal migration and (b) international migration (Agenda item 7)

40. A member of the Secretariat in introducing this agenda item referred to the background document E/ECA/STAT/WG/MS/89/10 and the Statistical Information Bulletin for Africa, Nos. 15 and 17. He identified the major problems of population censuses as sources of migration statistics as consisting of: the limited number of questions, the long length between decennial censuses, the static nature of census information, and failure on the part of a number of African countries to cross-classify the information on migrants with each other as well as other items collected. He then explained the problems with the use of sample surveys to generate information on migration, namely: generating a representative sample of migrants at a reasonable cost. Other problems of survey data such as recall lapse, digit preference/avoidance especially from the use of retrospective questions e.g. the migration hisory format were also elaborated.

41. He remarked with reference to these problems that sample surveys such as longitudinal inquiries and the utilization of techniques like the migration history questionnaire, supplementing population censuses were methodologies that could be used to collect more refined and detailed information on migration in African countries.

42. With reference to the collection of international migration statistics by border collection methods, the problems of incomplete returns from land borders were elaborated. The variety of definitions of international migrants in use in African countries were also highlighted.

43. The speaker also dwelt upon the problems of analyses of migration, pointing to the shortcomings of answers on motives for moving as well as the use of aggregative census data to study macro determinants of migration. Relative to analyses on the consequences of migration, he explained that the major conceptual problem, namely: distinguishing migration related changes from socio-economic, ecological; political and cultural related changes.

44. In the discussion that followed participants raised issues pertaining to measurement problems of data collection systems and analyses.

45. With reference to internal migration, it was observed that the classification of localities as urban/rural though important and could be used in the tabulation of some of the collected information from field inquiries presented problems of identification. In this connection, it was noted that one important way to minimize this problem is for meticulous cartographic work to be done, paying special attention to the issue of identification of localities in successive surveys and censuses. A related problem discussed was the delineation of urban localities.

46. Another issue of measurement that participants reviewed is the problem of the definition of migration which takes into account the spatial and temporal dimensions of the movement. In this context, one group of participants argued that a time criterion such as 6 months should be stipulated, while another group argued in favour of flexibility. Another factor that was suggested that should be taken into account in the definition of migration was intention to reside or not, in order to provide more detailed classification of the migrants. Reservations were also expressed about the inclusion of this question. It was also a view of a number of participants that the simple definition of migration as consisting of movements across a migration - defining area could form the basis of a definition of migration, with member States including other criteria like reasons for moving to qualify persons as migrants.

47. With reference to the view that all data collection and analytical methods should be used in order to generate information on migration in African countries, participants agreed that indirect methods for deriving internal and international migration should be experimented within African countries, with attention paid to the shortcomings of the technique and attempts made to minimize them.of workshop or publication of manuals are required.

48. On the role of data collection systems generally, a number of participants expressed the view that each system - field inquiries and administrative records - should be used to complement each other. The view was also be expressed that this should be done while at the same time taking into account the needs and requirements of each country.

49. The discussion on international migration focussed on the shortcomings of statistics from border frontier points and problems involved in enumeration of special categories of persons who cross international boundaries in African countries: nomads, refugees and border inhabitants, as well as foreigh population in African countries who illegally work in areas of economic activity reserved for natives. The desire for the uniformity of data on embarkation/disembarkation forms of African countries

along with suggestion on a core number of questions which should feature in these forms were discussed by the Working Group. The efforts by African Sub-groupings like ECOWAS in trying to achieve uniformity in these area were commended.

Special measurement and analytical problems for women and children (Agenda item 8)

50. A member of the secretariat in introducing this agenda item noted that the extent of participation of females and children in migration occurred in two types of mobility: (a) as tied or associational moves, that is, they accompany husbands, fathers and other relatives and (b) as independent movers.

51. He noted that the measurement problems of female participation in migration include: special gender considerations that compromise the accurate recording of the movements of female migrants. He pointed out that the measurement problems take two main forms: insufficient concern with disaggregating available information by sex and significant underreporting and underestimation of females in field inquiries.

52. The following were reviewed as the sources of some of the errors: difficulties of enumerating certain categories of women, e.g. those not in respectable/legal occupations and the methods of interviewing, with male respondents - usually heads of households - providing information on females (and children) some of whom they do not know well.

53. Relative to analysis, the representative of the secretariat pointed out that both the migration situations of female migrants as associational and independent movers as well as the consequences for households left behind as a result of substantial male out-migration should be taken into account. Referring to conceptual problems of analyses on the determinants of female migration, he noted that peculiar female specific factors e.g, as marital considerations and participation in economies of the destination areas should be considered.

54. In the discussion that followed, participants suggested that at least a question on reason for migration ought to be included on the questionnaires of field inquiries in order to facilitate detailed breakdown of female migrants especially independent female migrants by various activies e.g. schooling and work. In this connection, the problems of getting accurate information on occupational status, especially from female migrants engaged in non-respectable and/or illegal activities were raised. A number of problems that could lead to the under-enumeration of female respondents and misreporting of their responses were enumerated by various participants. These include the provision of answers by proxy respondents, such as heads of households and failure on the part of enumerators to complete information on field inquiries' questionnaires on sex, leaving them to be inferred from the names, some of which are not specific to any sex. These sort of problems, it was observed created problems in the office on the coding and tabulation of data sex.

55. A participant provided an example of data collection by various systems in generating a comprehensive data base on female migration in Mali. He noted that the data offered an opportunity for more detailed analyses of

migration which brought out interesting findings on the consequences of out-migration of males on the socio-economic well-being of families left behind as well as the origin localities as a whole.

56. It was also noted, with reference to the problems of accurate enumeration of children that, in all cases, in order to avoid ambiguity, a minimum age should be stipulated.

57. A participant also remarked about the problems of getting reliable information on the economic activities of female migrants engaged in the informal sector and/or self employed. In this context, he suggested that resort to anthropological inquiries could help to generate more meaningful information on this item for these class of women.

58. It was also observed that better exploitation of collected available data, by for example cross-tabulation of information on migration by sex with other socio-economic information could go a long way in providing a richer data set on female migration.

The establishment of a statistical data base on migration statistics (Agenda item 9)

59. A representative of the secretariat presented the paper "THE ESTABLISHMENT OF STATISTICAL DATA BASE ON MIGRATION" E/ECA/STAT/WG/MS/89/11. It was pointed out that the importance of migration statistics for monitoring population mobility and its impact on social and economic development of a country and its use for planning, programming and policy formulation has necessiated the quantitative analysis and hence the establishment of the data base. The proper and appropriate definition of the underlying phenomena of migration, and its classification under different categories, the identification of the type of data to be collected are vital for the establishment of the data base.

60. The objectives and organization of the migration data base and possible type of data to be collected and the classification system for migration statistics was also introduced.

61. Following the presentation of the secretariat, deligates deliberated on the need for the establishment of the data base. In order to avoid complications in the realization of the data base, the deligates stated that the data base be first established at national level by each country and latter on at a regional and sub-regional level. This is in light of the availability of the data and the differences in the definitions and classifications of migration statistics by different countries. Since migration statistics cannot be seen isolated from other demographic data, it was suggested that a general purpose data base be established with special emphasis on migration.

62. UNFPA should be requested to fund such a data bank. The role of RIPS and IFORD in the arrangements to establish a demographic data bank at ECA should be examined. Questions were raised about the modalities for the use of such a data bank. Would on-line connections be available between ECA and member States or would researchers from member States be required to travel to ECA to undertake research? A representative of the secretariat explained that if such a data bank were set up, tapes could be made available

to researchers in their own countries, provided the Governments concerened give their consent to the release of the tapes. This would not rule out the possibility of researchers coming to ECA to undertake studies, provided funding was available.

Recommendations to the sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on improving the state of migration statistics in Africa (Agenda item 10)

63. The Working Group after reviewing the state of migration data collection and analysis in Africa and after having concluded that it is a relatively neglected area in African Demography, made the following recommendations for consideration and adoption by the Sixth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers.

(a) Sources of data

(i) All migration data sources such as population censuses, surveys, and administrative records should be fully exploited. In particular, where with slight modifications of questions on questionnaires and forms, the usefulness of the data collected can be enhanced, the statistical office in collaboration with other primary users of the data should examine the possibility of effecting these changes.

(ii) A new research programme involving regional or subregional migration surveys should be considered. African experts should meet to study the technical and administrative feasibility for such a survey programme as well as its desirability.

(b) Definitions, concepts and classifications

(i) There is need to re-examine definitions, concepts and classification in the field of migration statistics. This re-examination should take account of previous work done by the UN Population Division, the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population and other relevant scientific organizations. ECA should take the lead in Africa in standardising these definitions, concepts and classifications.

(ii) In particular, efforts should be made to obtain a uniform definition of "urban". If this is not feasible, an attempt should be made to recommend to all African countries to use in addition to their own definition of urban, the locality size of say, 10,000 or more for selected tabulations.

(c) Data and analytical requirements

(i) Data on characteristics of migrants should be analysed and tabulations relating to various variables such as sex, age, marital status, education, economic activity, occupation, industry and fertility should be published.

(ii) There is need for standardised tables to be produced to assist in inter-country comparisons. A minimum list of standardised tables should be produced by all countries.

(iii) All ECA member States are urged to enhance the quality and quantity of internal migration statistics from their countries and from various data collection systems.

(iv) That all ECA Member States should at least include the birth place question in their questionnaires on field inquiries. Other desirable questions e.g. duration of residence, place of previous residence and place of residence at a fixed prior date could be included.

(v) Use should be made of the lowest administrative units of countries as the migration defining areas of field inquiries.

(vi) In order to facilitate comparative analyses of information on migration, countries are required to specify the sizes of their migration defining areas.

(vii) (a) UNFPA is requested to continue to provide assistance to projects of ECA member States in enhancing the quality and quantity of migration statistics.

(b) Other donors are also requested to assist in funding projects on migration statistics in Africa.

(viii) Responses to migration questions in field inquiries should be cross-tabulated with those to other socio-economic questions from the same inquiry.

(ix) Special efforts should be put on cartographic work in order to facilitate the identification, enumeration and tabulation of localities in field inquiries.

(x) With respect to international migration, every member State is requested to include on the embarkation/disembarkation cards the following five items, questions on: place of birth, date of birth, nationality, purpose of travel and length of stay.

(xi) The problems of enumerating special categories of persons who cross international boundaries namely - refugees, nomads and border inhabitants in African countries were noted and special efforts should be made to enumerate them.

(xii) Data on emigrants especially from African countries should be collected by all ECA member States, coded and tabulated as far as possible for as many countries as possible.

(xiii) Donor agencies are called upon to provide African countries with funds for the analysis, publication and dissemination of demographic publications including those on migration.

(xiv) Strengthening and establishment of regional networks on migration should be encouraged.

(d) Experimentation

There is need for greater experimentation in migration data collection and analysis, especially in the application of tracer surveys to validate responses and the use of censuses or first phase of two-phase sampling schemes to identify concentrations of migrants and thus improve the sampling design.

(e) Measurement and analyses of female and child migration

(i) All ECA member States are urged to devote more effort in collecting and tabulating migration statistics pertaining to females and children.

(ii) Adequate preparations and necessary corrective measures should be undertaken in field inquiries in order to minimize problems of underenumeration and misstatement of information regarding female and child migrants.

(iii) To generate detailed information on female migration, attempts should be made in field inquiries, especially demographic sample surveys to include as many questions as possible, such as: the reasons for the movement and the migration history questionnaire.

(f) Development of a demographic data base

(i) An attempt should be made to obtain population census tapes (for example a sample of all enumerated population) for each African country and these should form the basis of a demographic data base to be established at ECA.

(ii) The need was expressed for the development of a comprehensive data system including migration statistics in ECA member States.

(iii) Each country should establish a general purpose data base with special emphasis on migration statistics.

Evaluation of the Working Group (Agenda item 11)

64. Fourteen evaluation questionnaires were completed. They indicate that most of the participants were satisfied with the organization, content and documentation of the Working Group.

65. More explicitly, ten participants reported that they were informed sufficiently in advance about the meeting and four were informed too late. The majority of the participants were of the view that the duration of the meeting was just right, the timetable was just right (12) too demanding (2) and the overall administrative arrangements was very good (12) or good (1).

66. As regards the content of the programme for the meeting, the majority of the participants were of the opinion that the topics for discussion were very relevant (12) or fairly relevant (1) and that the introduction to these topics were clear throughout (12). Most of the participants indicated that the discussions were both practically and theoritically

oriented (9) and practically oriented (4). The following topics were suggested to be included in the agenda for future meetings:

- Socio-economic impact of migrants (income, economic activity, education)

- Review of various methods (including indirect methods) and evaluation of their application to African data.

67. All the participants indicated that the documentation was sufficient and very clear. Concerning the time allowed for questions and discussions, all the participants felt that it was sufficient.

68. Considering that the main objective of the Working Group was to assess the current situation of migration statistics regarding their collection, processing, analysis and dissemination and therefore to make recommendation to improve the stock of data available, most of the participants considered that this objective has been fully achieved (9) while one third of them felt that it has been partially achieved (5). However, all the participants confirmed that the issues discussed at the Working Group were very relevant to future activities in the field of the production of migration statistics.

69. The participants were invited to make any suggestions for the improvement of the organization and conduct of future meetings. Some participants suggested to:

- Send background documents of the meeting to them before the meeting to allow them to consult all bodies interested in the subject and to gather all the necessary information for the discussions;

- Associate other specialists such as data processing specialists, planners and geographers. One participant noted the participation of officers from Immigration Offices and that this should be encouraged.

Other business (Agenda item 12)

70. The secretariat assured participants that the recommendations of the meeting will be made available to the Nairobi seminar of the Union for African Population Studies (UAPS) on migration.

71. It was also proposed that a bibliography of migration studies in Africa should be prepared periodically by ECA. The secretariat indicated that if this is to be done properly, then inputs from member States will be required.

72. The Working Group also discussed the role of computer scientists in the follow-up work in approving the recommendations of the meeting. The secretariat explained that computer scientists participate in the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers which will approve the recommendations for onward transmission to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

73. The Working Group noted that Mr. K. T. de Graft-Johnson, Chief, ECA Statistics Division was retiring at the end of November 1989. It moved

a note of thanks to him in appreciation of his invaluable contributions to the development of African statistics in general and demography in particular included migration statistics.

LIST OF STANDARDISED TABLES TO BE PRODUCED BY ECA MEMBER STATES ON MIGRATION STATISTICS FROM FIELD INQUIRIES

(De facto and/or de facto population)

- Total population and population of major and minor civil divisions, by urban/rural distribution, sex and age
  - Population in localities by size - class of locality, sex and age
  - Population of principal localities and of their urban agglomeration, by sex
  - Native and foreign-born population by age and sex
  - Native population by major civil division of birth, age and sex
  - Foreign-born population by country of birth, age and sex
  - Population by duration of residence in locality and major civil division, age and sex
  - Population .... years of age and over by place of usual residence, place of residence, duration of residence, place of previous residence and sex
  - Total population by:
    - . Sex, age and reason for migration
    - . Metropolitan and similar areas